

CITY OF CHARLOTTE COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
111 E. Lawrence Ave., Charlotte, MI 48813 (517) 543-2750
Regular Council Meeting
March 21, 2022

CALL TO ORDER:

By Mayor Armitage on Monday March 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Armitage, Mayor Pro-Tem Weissenborn, Council members Dyer, Rodriguez, Van Langevelde, Horvath and Lake. A quorum was met. Also in attendance were City Manager LaPere, Attorney Gillies and Deputy City Clerk Densmore.

INVOCATION:

None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Led by Mayor Armitage

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

March 07, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes and March 10, 2022 Workshop Meeting Minutes

Motion by Lake supported by Van Langevelde to approved the March 07, 2022 & March 10, 2022 meeting minutes. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0.

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS:

None

PUBLIC HEARING:

- a. closeout of the Michigan Community Development Block Grant funding for the Beach Market renovation project

Mayor Michael Armitage opened the public hearing on the Beach Market CDBG Closeout Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m.

Community Development Director Bryan Myrkle spoke about the CDBG grant, reporting the following information:

- This is a required public hearing that provides an opportunity to summarize the project and give the public a chance to comment on the use of the grant funds, as well as any other aspect of the project.
- The hearing relates to Grant No. MSC-217052-ESB
- Community Development Block Grant funds of \$268,489.78 were used for the blight elimination and historic preservation portions of the project.
- Private matching funds of \$370,420.24 were used for the new construction elements of the project. These funds came from other grants and donations.
- Administration of the grant was performed by Revitalize, LLC, of Mason, Michigan. Administrative costs were \$18,920.00, also paid for by Community Development Block Grant funds.
- The project was a part of Governor Rick Snyder's Project Rising Tide initiative.
- No persons were displaced as a result of the project.
- Historic preservation goals were achieved.

- Documented blight has been deemed eliminated and certified as such through inspection by the Eaton County Construction Code Department.

No members of the public spoke during the public hearing.

Mayor Michael Armitage closed the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Resident Connie Braden is concerned about the needs of seniors in regards to their special living needs and would like to see changes in building code to include these considerations when new construction, or redevelopment, et al, of senior housing occurs.

Resident Skyler Anderson mentioned his concerns in relation to parking restrictions at Sheldon and Laurence intersection.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was agreed to change consent agenda items b and c to be moved to items a and b of the business agenda. Motion by Dyer supported by Weissenborn to approve the agenda with the noted change. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0

CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approval of claims and expenditures totaling \$236,946.50
- b. Item moved to business agenda – item a
- c. Item moved to business agenda – item b

Motion by Weissenborn supported by Van Langevelde to approve the Consent agenda item a. Carried by unanimous roll call vote; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0.

BUSINESS AGENDA:

- a. Approval of Traffic Control Order # 22-01

Motion to approve Traffic Control Order # 22-01 by Dyer supported by Weissenborn was withdrawn after brief discussion and the item was tabled for follow up at the next regular council meeting on April 18, 2022

- b. Approval of MDOT Performance Resolution for Municipalities

Motion to approve MDOT Performance Resolution for Municipalities by Dyer supported by Lake. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0.

- c. Proposed Charter Amendment to eliminate Wards within the City.

Motion to approve sending proposal to amend city charter to eliminate wards within the city for a vote of the people by Dyer supported by Weissenborn. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0.

- d. Proposed Charter Amendment to modify the Mayoral term to four years.

Motion to approve sending proposal to modify the Mayoral term to four years for a vote of the people by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0.

- e. Proposed Charter Amendment to move City Elections from Odd to Even years.

Motion to approve sending proposal to amend city charter to move city elections from odd to even years for a vote of the

people by Dyer supported by Weissenborn. Carried; Yea 6; Nay 1 (Dyer); Absent 0.

- f. Establishing a citizen’s advisory board for conducting public engagement on water infrastructure improvements.

Motion to approve establishing a citizen’s advisory board for conducting public engagement on water infrastructure improvements by Van Langevelde supported by Dyer. Carried; Yea 4 (Horvath, Van Langevelde, Weissenborn, Dyer); Nay 3 (Armitage, Lake, Rodriguez); Absent 0.

COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- a. City Attorney report was received.
- b. City Manager report was received. LaPere mentioned Planning Commission Training Tue. 3/29/22 at 6 p.m.; Feb. Revenue and Expense report; 2021 Water Quality Report; Spring Leaf and Brush Pick-up; Local Business Grant Opportunities; Assistance Programs; MI Water Navigator Program; FY 22-23 Budget; and Rave Alerts.
- c. Resident letter from Thomas Potter regarding a zoning issue in his neighborhood at E. Lovett St. and Pleasant Streets, signed by several other residents in the area. Armitage mentioned that his concerns can be included in budget discussions when considering funding for the Master Plan.
- d. Councilmember Committee Reports, No reports

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Volunteer Firefighter (VFF) Ron Smith addressed Council, speaking on behalf of the 23 volunteer firefighters, he read a list of grievances against the City, they collectively and immediately resigned their positions as volunteer firefighters.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Van Langevelde; No comment.

Rodriguez; No Comment.

Weissenborn; Attended the ribbon cutting ceremony at the opening of the CPS agricultural learning center. Thanked community for supporting the bond to make it happen.

Dyer; No comments.

Horvath; Has no history on the issue.

Armitage; The mayor, in light of the mass resignation of the VFF spoke directly to the residents of the City of Charlotte to let them know he was not aware of any such pending action of the VFF and assured them that fire services will continue to be given by our full-time fire department with the aid of surrounding departments.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Dyer, supported by Weissenborn to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Carried; Yea 7; Nay 0; Absent 0.

Mayor Armitage

Mikayla Densmore, Deputy City Clerk